IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly rewrite Claims 1-9 as follows, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121:

What is claimed is:

1. (cancelled)

2. (currently amended) ~~The~~ An isolated DNA ~~of claim 1~~ encoding a mutant LysE protein, wherein said mutant is ~~a protein~~ selected from the group consisting of:

A) a protein ~~which has~~ comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, except that ~~whereby at least~~ the glycine residue at position 56 is replaced with another amino acid residue, and

B) a protein ~~which has~~comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 except that ~~whereby at least~~

i) the glycine residue at position 56 is replaced with another amino acid residue, and ~~one or several~~

ii) not more than 10 amino acid residues at positions other than the 56th residue are substituted, deleted, or inserted ~~or added~~,

wherein said mutant ~~and when said mutant is introduced into a methanol-assimilating bacterium, said mutant~~ imparts resistance to ~~a L-lysine analogue~~S-(2-aminoethyl) cysteine when introduced into said methylotroph.

3. (currently amended) The DNA of claim 2, wherein said DNA is selected from the group consisting of:

A) a DNA which has the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, except that ~~whereby~~ a mutation which results in replacement of ~~at least~~ the 56th glycine residue of the encoded protein with another amino acid residue; and

B) a DNA which is hybridizable with the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 under ~~the~~ stringent conditions comprising washing in 1xSSC and 0.1%SDS at 60°C., ~~or a probe prepared from said nucleotide sequence,~~

~~and when said DNA or said probe is introduced into a methanol-assimilating bacterium, said DNA or said probe encodes a protein which imparts resistance to L-lysine analogue.~~

4. (currently amended) The DNA of claim 2, wherein said ~~other amino~~

~~acid~~glycine residue at position 56 is replaced with a serine residue.

5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) The DNA of claim ~~1~~2, wherein said ~~methanol-assimilating bacterium~~methylotroph is a bacterium belonging to the genus *Methylophilus* or *Methylobacillus*.

7. (currently amended) A bacterium comprising ~~belonging to the genus *Methylophilus* or *Methylobacillus*, into which~~ the DNA of claim ~~1~~2 in an expressible form ~~is introduced~~, wherein said bacterium belongs to the genus *Methylophilus* or *Methylobacillus*, and wherein said bacterium ~~which~~ has L-lysine or L-arginine producing ability.

8. (withdrawn; currently amended) A method for producing L-lysine or L-arginine comprising the steps of

A) culturing the bacterium of claim 7 in a medium ~~to produce and accumulate L-lysine or L-arginine in the culture~~, and

B) collecting L-lysine or L-arginine from the culture.

9. (withdrawn) The method for producing L-lysine or L-arginine of claim 8, wherein the medium contains methanol as a ~~main~~ major carbon source.